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Arby's Restaurant opens for patrons Page 13A



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Photo by Sgt. Robert Schaffner Jr.

Sergeant Major Bryan S. Kernen, assigned to the 3rd Infantry Division G4, instructs vehicle driver, Sgt. Leonard Tukes, assistant battalion master driver, assigned to HSC Division Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion, 3rd Infantry Division checkpoint, to the random roadside inspection area, April 8.

3rd ID hikes roadside spot checks

Sgt. Robert Schaffner Jr. 3rd ID Public Affairs

Soldiers can expect to be stopped at random vehicle roadside spot-check points beginning this week. These spot checks, designed to ensure equipment is safely operated, were reduced during the 3rd Infantry Division's recent deployment but are regaining momentum with the division's return.

All vehicles and equipment are required to carry specific items such as a fire extinguisher and warning triangles which the inspectors will be looking for as well as a variety of other issues to ensure safety.

"We have a standardized spot check list, listing things we normally look for, that the units should be aware of before dispatch or put a piece of equipment on the road," said Chief Warrant Officer Ray M. Noble, senior maintenance technician for the 3rd ID.

See VEHICLE _ -Page 10A

Victims of sexual assault share stories

Elvia Kelly Fort Stewart Public

April is Sexual Assault Prevention Month. The observance aids in providing awareness and prevention of sexual abuse. The truth is that sexual assault is not prejudice to race, age, education, sex or class. It can happen to anyone. A victim, who requested to remain anonymous, shares her story of sexual assault.

She is a college graduate, an Army spouse, and a mom... the average Family Member in Fort Stewart's community. She did not scream

in the middle of the night. A complete stranger did not assault her. Her story began when she was five years old. She knew her assailants, vet, in the eves of a young girl, her assailants were her friends.

"We lived in the northwest. Both my parents worked, so my neighbor babysat me." the victim said. "Their son, who was 13 at the time, had a camera in the garage. He would take pictures of me changing into my bathing suit. When you're five, you don't know that's not OK. I was still thinking about cooties."

See ASSAULT_ Page 12A

Maj Gen Abrams takes command of 3rd ID



Photo by Jimmy McSalters, MVISC

Major General Robert B. Abrams, incoming commander, receives the 3rd Infantry Division Colors from U.S. Army Forces Command General James D. Thurman to take command of 3rd ID from Maj. Gen. Tony Cucolo, as the new 3rd ID Command Sergeant Major Edd Watson stands by to receive the Colors from Mai. Gen. Abrams. See related stories page 2A & 3A.

3rd ID holds Twilight Tattoo for Soldiers, Families, community

Spc. Michael Adams 3rd ID Public Affairs

To honor the legacy of the U.S. Army and the Third Infantry Division, the division held a Twilight Tattoo, a chance to honor the legacy of freedom the unit has left around the world.

The sun shined through a slightly overcast sky as children ran around, played in the field and got a chance to play in real Army helicopters, tanks and other vehicles that were on display for the public.

Soldiers sat on the grass and listened to the 3rd ID band perform classic rock songs as well as American standards.

The main part of the event featured 3rd ID Soldiers in uniforms from previous conflicts as the audience got a chance to see what the division's history looked like.

And some Soldiers, as well as some future Soldiers, got their chance to show their patriotic side at the event.

Former 3rd ID commander, Major General Tony Cucolo alongside former 3rd ID Command Sgt. Maj. Jeffrey Ashmen, administered the oath of enlistment to Soldiers who were about ready to go to boot camp and Soldiers who chose to

Speaking to the first time enlistees, Maj. Gen. Cucolo said he wanted the event to serve as an image of what they are fighting for.



Photo by Spc. Michael Adams

Third Infantry **Division Soldiers** adorned in historic uniforms pose as a **Combat Aviation** Brigade helicopter flies over during the Twilight Tattoo at Fort Stewart, April 14.

See TATTOO

Page 2A



Stewart-Hunter Facebook Online Town Hall Meeting

services and other topics.

May 4, 6:30 p.m.

Maj Gen Abrams assumes command of 3rd ID from Maj Gen Cucolo



Photo by Master Sgt. Jennifer K. Yancey, 3rd ID Public Affairs

Major General Robert B. Abrams addresses an audience of peers, mentors and Family Members following his promotion ceremony at the Fort Stewart Museum, April 15. In another ceremony that day, Maj. Gen. Abrams assumed command of the 3rd Infantry Division.

Sgt. Robert Schaffner Jr. 3rd ID Public Affairs

With 29 years of service, Maj. Gen. Robert B. Abrams comes to the Marne Division, April 15, after serving as the 17th commanding general of Fort Irwin and the National Training Center, Fort

Major General Abrams said the 3rd ID is a top division in the Army, proven by the division's constant deployments in recent years, and he vows to continue to extend the division legacy during his time as commander.

"We are going to train and prepare for any pos-

We are going to train and prepare for any

possible contingency. We

have Soldiers in the

division . . . who are

confident in their unit's

3rd Infantry Division commanding general

ability to deploy.

Maj. Gen. Robert Abrams

sible contingency," he said. "We have Soldiers in the division and leaders who are confident in themselves, confident in their leaders, and confident in their unit's ability to deploy to any contingency."

U.S. Army Forces Command commander, General James D. Thurman praised the new Marne 6.

"General Abrams is the right man at the right place at the right time," said Gen. Thurman. "This is a great fit for Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield."

After 33 months leading the Marne Division, Maj. Gen. Tony Cucolo passed the reins of the 3rd Infantry Division and Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield to Maj. Gen. Abrams in a ceremony at Cottrell Field, April 15.

Prior to the change of command, Maj. Gen. Cucolo and his wife were awarded for their work with the Soldiers and Families of the 3rd ID. General Thurman presented Maj. Gen. Cucolo with The Distinguished Service Medal and his wife, Ginger, was presented the Outstanding Civilian Service Medal for her service and activities to improve the quality of life for Soldiers, Civilians and Families of the 3rd ID.

General Thurman, a previous Dogface Soldier, presided at the ceremony and praised the efforts of the Marne Soldiers under Maj. Gen. Cucolo's leadership during the division's most recent deployment to Iraq.

"Under [Maj. Gen.] Tony Cucolo's leadership, Rock of the Marne units have remained the tip of the nation's spear," said Gen. Thurman. "Army formations from Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield and the great Soldiers assigned to them have taken the fight to the enemy."

Major General Cucolo's voice wavered with emotion as he spoke as the Marne Division commander for the last time.

"It has been my dream come true to affix a uniform every morning that had a Marne patch on the left side and a Marne patch on the right side," he said. "It's the only patch with 51 Medals of Honor... with that patch

on, you feel like you should stand a little taller and be better at your duties."

Local dignitaries, retired and current general officers, fellow service members and friends from around the community gathered to bid farewell to the Maj. Gen. and Mrs. Cucolo, and to welcome Maj. Gen. Abrams and his wife, Connie Abrams.

During the ceremony, Command Sgt. Maj. Jeffrey Ashmen handed authority to Command Sgt. Maj. Edd Watson. Command Sergeant Major Jeffrey Ashmen retired after 31 years of service. Command Sergeant Major Watson most recently served as the 1st Heavy Brigade Combat Team command sergeant major.

From GC's deste "Think globally, act locally" to protect Earth



Col. Kevin W. Milton

U.S. Army Garrison Commander

Earth Day 2011 is quickly approaching! Each year Earth Day is recognized on April 22 and is intended to inspire awareness and appreciation for the Earth's natural environment. For us here at Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield,

Earth Day serves to remind us how blessed we are to have a diverse and rich environment entrusted to our care by our great country.

Have you ever wondered how and when the first Earth Day came about? Do you know what initiated it? On April 22, 1970, America celebrated its first Earth Day. This day of environmental education was inspired and organized by Senator Gaylord Nelson from Wisconsin. After witnessing the ravages of the 1969 massive oil spill in Santa Barbara, California, Senator Nelson was infused with the idea to show politicians the public support and interest for a political agenda focused on environmental issues. With Senator Nelson's inspiration, twenty million Americans took to the streets, parks, and auditoriums to demonstrate for a healthy, sustainable environment. These demonstrations sparked the creation of the United States Environmental Protection Agency a mere three years later and led to the passage of the Clean Air, Clean Water, and Endangered Species Acts.

From its beginning, Earth Day has reminded us to "think globally and act locally" because our working and living environment extends beyond our homes, neighborhoods, and Installation to our country and our planet. Our Installation's environment must support tough, demanding training and serve as a solid foundation for the high degree of readiness that our mission demands. I need your commitment to help protect our entrusted resources not just on Earth Day, but every day. By doing so, not only do we embrace the well-being of the Soldiers, Families, and Civilian employees who work, train, and live here, but we also preserve our training lands for future generations.

This year Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield will celebrate Earth Day on Saturday, April 23. Department of Public Works Environmental Division will host educational booths, displays and activities which will coincide with Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation's Easter Egg Hunt and Family Fun Day. Fort Stewart's event will be held at Bennett Sports Complex from 11 am until 2 pm. Hunter Army Airfield's event will be at Squire Sports Complex from 10 am until 2 pm. I hope all of you will come out, enjoy the festivities and learn how to protect our Earth.

Remember, I need your help. As American citizens, we all share a personal responsibility to "think globally and act locally" as environmental stewards. Together we can achieve our dream of securing a healthy and protected environment. For more information, please call the DPW Environmental Division at 912-767-2010. To learn more about the environment, please refer to the informational Earth Day insert in today's paper. Thank you for your continued support and Happy Earth Day to all!

Barracks Life Tempting Poseidon, other fine pastimes



Spc. Jared **Eastman** 3rd ID Public Affairs

All right Barrack's Rats, St. Patty's is over, you made it. There may be a kilt in your room that you do not know the origin of, there may be

a large hole in your bank account that rivals the Mariana Trench, but hopefully you remember most of your fourday weekend. However, after a week of

Post-Patrick's doldrums you may be wondering to yourself, what do I do next?

With spring at Fort Stewart giving us 80 degree days, now would be a perfect time to spend a day at Tybee Island. Along with the beach and ocean, Tybee offers a nice downtown scene with shopping and seafood restaurants. If you're planning to spend the day camping out at the beach make sure to bring your sun block, and remember that no breakable containers are allowed on the beach (like glass). Although the rules of Tybee Island may seem stringent, it does make for a pristine coastline. Word of caution, there's a sand bar on the south side that seems close enough to wade out to. However, the water you have to wade has a crazy riptide with over thirty pounds of force per inch of water. Don't tempt Poseidon, stay out of that

If your bank account or shoe leather express keeps you a bit closer to the barracks, you could take a trip down to Holbrook pond. The recreation facility offers boat and pavilion rentals, as well as campsites. The recreational facility also runs the post paintball field in case

"There are still young men and women

who will set their personal priorities aside

and say 'I will do my part to defend the free-

The former commanding general also

"To my re-enlisting Soldiers, they're send-

ing a message to America too: They're say-

ing 'yeah, I've seen the ugliness, I've tasted

the sacrifice, the hardship, but I have found my calling and I want to contribute

Major General Cucolo also thanked the

veterans in attendance, adding the Soldiers

dom my Family and I enjoy," he said.

honored those who chose to re-enlist.

you're looking for a place to practice the squad tactics you and your friends

learned from Call of Duty. Finally, if you feel compelled to stay in or near the barracks, there are plenty of things to occupy your time. Fort Stewart has a great library that has a large array of books, and the Stewart bowling alleys are nearby. This weekend might also be a great opportunity to clean your room of St. Patty's day brica-brac. Also, make sure to get outside once and awhile - you don't want to be the only Soldier going to PT looking like a ghost.

TATTOO



serving today are their legacy. At the end of the ceremony, Soldiers dressed in historic uniforms walked onto the field as Army helicopters arrived on que

hovering above. The audience gave the show

a standing ovation. Specialist Avery Cody, an Army bass player with the 3rd ID Band, was one of the many bandmembers who performed that night.

He felt it was a spectacular show and was

honored to be a part of it.

"It was a nice selection of music and a nice selection of history," he said. "It lets people know what 3rd ID has done from the past wars that we've had."

from Page 1A

Specialist Cody also reflected on why he was so proud to be a Soldier.

"It makes me feel really good," he said. "Growing up, I've always had a calling to protect my own and my Family. The Army has allowed me to do that. Being at 3rd ID with its extensive history, I have grown to be very proud."

Another Soldier who watched the event was very happy with what he saw.

"I like what I'm seeing," said Sergeant 1st Class David Gooden, textile repair specialist with the 473rd Quartermaster Company. "It keeps out traditions and shows the military's reach today, where we have come from."

Sergeant First Class Gooden added events like this give Families an idea of what we do and this will encourage them to support us more.

"They are our main lifeline when we are in combat," he said.

Photo by Spc. Michael Adams

Family Members play inside a helicopter on display for the public at the Fort Stewart Twilight Tattoo, April 14.



Incoming 3rd ID commander, Maj. Gen. Robert B. Abrams, rides along side U.S. Army Forces Command commander, Gen. James D. Thurman, while outgoing 3rd ID commander, Maj. Gen. Tony Cucolo, rides up front during a pass and review of 3rd ID Soldiers, April 15 on Cottrell Field. The 4th IBCT rear-detachment Colors are cased due to the brigade's current deployment to Iraq.

Maj Gen Abrams now new Marne Division leader



Photo by Sgt. Robert Schaffner

The new Division Command Sergeant Major Edd Watson returns the division Colors to the guidon bearer after receiving the Colors from the new 3rd ID Commander, Maj. Gen Robert B. Abrams at Cottrell Field, April 15.



Photo by Sgt. Robert Schaffner

Members of the 3rd Infantry Division Band perform during a pass and review in front of U.S. Army Forces Command commander, Gen. James D. Thurman; incoming 3rd ID commander, Maj. Gen. Robert B. Abrams; outgoing commander Maj. Gen. Tony Cucolo and their spouses during the division change of command on Cottrell Field, April 15.



Photo by Spc. Michael Adams, 3rd ID Public Affairs

Outgoing 3rd ID Command Sgt. Maj. Jeffrey Ashmen reads the inscription on a statue of Rocky given to outgoing 3rd ID commander, Maj. Gen. Tony Cucolo and his wife Ginger, at Right Arm Night, April 14. Right Arm Night was a chance for Soldiers and their Family Members to say goodbye to Maj. Gen Cucolo as he relinquishes command of 3rd ID.



Photo by Master Sgt. Jennifer K. Yancy, 3rd ID Public Affairs

Mrs. Connie Abrams promotes her husband, Maj. Gen. Robert B. Abrams, while Gen. James D. Thurman, commander, U.S. Army Forces Command, looks on. Major General Abrams received his second star during a ceremony at the Fort Stewart Museum prior to assuming command of the Marne Division in a change of command ceremony later on the morning of April 15.



Photo by Sgt. Robert Schaffner

Major General Tony Cucolo and his wife Ginger sing the Dog Face Soldier song after being awarded for their work with the Soldiers and Families of the 3rd Infantry Division.

Marne Faces

Fourth grader copes, thrives through constant deployments

Jennifer Hartwig

Hunter Army Airfield Public Affairs

Forty-three percent of active-duty Soldiers have children, and those children face the challenges that go handin-hand with their parents' deploy-

For one 260th Quartermaster Battalion Family Member, dealing with her father's constant deployments is an obstacle she has not only dealt with but thrived during.

Christilyn Lapsley is a fourth grade honor-roll student at Pulaski Elementary School; she is a Junior Girl Scout who just received her first three patches; she sings in the school chorus and she is an active member of Savannah Christian Church. At 10 years old, Christilyn has also dealt with her father being deployed for nearly half of her life.

Sergeant First Class Douglas Lapsley of the 260th Quartermaster Battalion has served four deployments, including a humanitarian mission to Haiti with the 10th Transportation Company after the massive earthquake in 2010 and his current deployment to Iraq with the 3rd Sustainment Brigade. When he was sent to Haiti, the Family arrived at Hunter Army Airfield only two months before, from Fort Sill, Okla.

Christilyn is the youngest of Sgt. 1st Class Lapsely and his wife Keisha's three children – she has two older brothers, Marshawn, 14, and Keuntate, 12. The deployments have been difficult for the Family, but Keisha said she sees growth in her daughter's understanding of the deployments.

"I see the transition from when he

was deployed when she was little until now and I can see a great growth in her," Keisha said. "She is able to handle it better – she is stronger now. Her grades haven't slipped ... she does like a train and just moves on."

Christilyn says she misses her dad when he is gone, but he calls the Family as often as he can.

"My dad calls a lot and asks how I'm doing," Christilyn said. "But he's coming home soon! I can't wait to have Family night – we're going to watch movies and play games."

The Family has found their way to get through Sgt. 1st Class Lapsely's deployments but, naturally, they wish he was home more.

"It is pretty rough; it seems like every time we are getting settled, he has to go deploy again," Keisha said." It's a lot of back and forth, they [the children] still rise above it but, of course, they really would rather see their dad home more."

In fact, Keisha said that it is her young daughter who helped her deal with the most recent deployments.

"On the last deployment I was in tears but Christilyn came to me and said, 'Mommy, you know what? Everything is going to be alright.' And she just doesn't know what that meant

In addition to deployments, military children also have to deal with constant moves and the changes that come with those moves – saying good bye to friends, being the new kid at school and trying to make new friends every couple of years.

For children like Christilyn, the mil-

itary has found a way to recognize them for their service - the Month of the Military Child. Since 1986 in the United States, April has been designated as the Month of the Military Child to honor children of those serving our country in the armed forces for the daily sacrifices they make. For parents, seeing their children get some recognition for the daily sacrifices they make is impor-

"The Month of the Military Child is awesome in recognizing the children because the children really struggle a lot," Keisha said. "They make it through tough times and they are resilient, but they cry and there are some things that they struggle with. I really thank God for the Month of the Military Child and the people who take the time to help those children though deployments. I think that's really great because [these children] need to know that they are not alone."

For the fourth grader who loves to play outside and watch Sponge Bob, the thing she looks forward to even more than a new episode of iCarly is her daddy coming home.

"My dad's coming home!" Christilyn said, April 12. "I'm so happy; we're going to put a "Welcome Home Daddy" sign on our house, and I'm going to run and hug him."

Just two days later, Christilyn got her wish when her dad returned from his fourth deployment. After numerous flight delays, the Family was reunited at Fort Stewart in the late hours of the night after Sgt. 1st Class Lapsely marched onto Cottrell Field with 300 other Soldiers with 3rd Sustainment



Photo by Sharita Wilkinson, Hunter AAF PAO

Christilyn Lapsley, 10, plays "Michael Jackson: The Experience" on Wii Kinect with her mother, Keisha, at their home on Hunter Army Airfield, April 12.

Brigade. The Family then made the hour drive back home to Hunter Army

This chapter has a happy ending; but the Lapsleys realize they will likely have a similar chapter soon, as Sgt. 1st Class Lapsley has 15 years of active-duty service and plans to serve at least 20 years in the Army. But Keisha knows that her daughter will get through it just as she has the previous four – by cracking a joke to turn sad times into happy moments.

Movement to new 4th IBCT complex to start soon

Kevin Larson

Fort Stewart Public Affairs

With construction moving along and several buildings completed, the 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team is preparing to move to its new home.

The 4th IBCT is currently deployed to Iraq, but early redeployers will begin moving into the complex's barracks in late spring, said 4th IBCT rear-detachment commander Lt. Col. Michael Todd.

"Mid-May will be our first redeploying flight, then starting again in early to mid June," Lt. Col. Todd said.

The new complex can house up to 1,438 Soldiers, Lt. "The brigade will maximize the capacity available

Along with Soldiers moving into their new barracks comes the movement of the brigade's equipment and vehicles. Drivers on the installation can expect to see

the 4th IBCT's vehicles and equipment moving from its

current footprint to the new complex soon, he said.

with the number of single Soldiers assigned," he

"Initially, flatbed trucks will be used to move equipment containers to the new Brigade complex, then later in July tactical vehicles will move to the Tactical Equipment Maintenance Facilities once we draw them,"

The initial set of the brigade's vehicles, roughly 90, as well as the remainder of the brigade's vehicles will be driven to their new TEMFs, minus some engineer equipment that will be on hauled on trailers.

"Since we are an Infantry Brigade Combat Team, we don't have tracked vehicles such as M1 Abrams Tanks, Bradley Fighting Vehicles, or M109A6 Paladins."

Designed with a light brigade in mind, the new complex is also special because it is the first contiguous brigade complex to be built at Fort Stewart, said Directorate of Public Works Technical Services Branch chief Will Abrams.

"Everything the brigade needs to fulfill daily operations from the Combined Brigade Battalion Headquarters to the Company Operations Facilities, motor pools, dining facility, the physical fitness facility and the medical clinic - when completed - are all on one 400-plus acre site and all of the facilities are easily within walking distance of one another," Abrams said. "We had the opportunity to design and build everything a brigade needs from physical training and training areas to daily operations and support facilities into one complete secured site."

Fourth IBCT Soldier Pvt. 1st Class Patrick Lindstrom is excited about moving into the new barracks, and like the privacy and size of the rooms, along with thicker mattresses and washers and dryers in every. Having his own oven in the kitchen is extra special he said.

Abrams looks forward to hearing more Soldiers' talk about the new complex.

"It has been a true honor and a privilege to be able to work on this project since the first shovels went into the ground through to the closing out and turnover of these facilities to their new owners, the 4th Brigade," he said. "I can honestly say that this is a beautiful well-built facility and I can't wait to see reactions and hear the Soldiers comments as they take occupation of it after serving our nation proudly overseas. They deserve nothing but our gratitude and the best facilities we can provide them with for the training and completion of their missions and I think we came pretty close."

There are also plans for a fire station and an AAFES mini-mart at the corner of HWY144 and Vanguard Road,

The complex's access control point opened, April 18. It will be open 24-hours starting May 13, but is currently open from 6:30 a.m. until 8 p.m., Abrams said.

Fort Stewart leaders lowered the speed limit along the Highway 144 corridor that runs past the 4th IBCT's complex to 35 mph in January as an early move to prepare drivers for the increased traffic and Soldier-presence.

Marne Voices Speak Out

April is Alcohol Awareness Month. How can you tell if your battle buddy had too much to drink and what would you do?

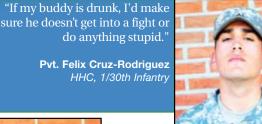
"I'll ask them if they need help or a ride. If they say no, I'll give them a ride anyway.'

> Spc. Christine Lee-Green HHC, 1st HBC1



"I'd tell him to calm down, take it easy and take him home. You can't just drop him off, you have to make sure he is

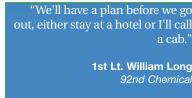
Staff Sgt. Rayes Perez





'I'd take them away from the crowd, sit and talk with them until they calm down and sober up.'

Spc. Mark Desorcy HHB, 3/16 Field Artillery







3RD INFANTRY DIVISION COMMANDER, SENIOR COMMANDER FS/HAAF MAJ. GEN. ROBERT B. ABRAMS USAG FS/HAAF COMMANDER COL. KEVIN W. MILTON

HUNTER ARMY AIRFIELD COMMANDER LT. COL. JOSE L. AGUILAR

"Have a designated driver who is clearly sober. If your group has consumed too much, have a plan.

Col. Thomas James

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Spartan Soldier saves life, receives key to city

Sgt. Dustin Gautney 2HBCT Public Affairs

The Key to the City of Richmond Hill, Ga., was awarded to Sgt. Walter Boyle, 3rd Squadron, 7th U.S. Cavalry, 2nd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division after saving the life of a choking Richmond Hill native. The Key was presented to Sgt. Boyle during a City Council meeting, held April 5.

Barbara Smiley, whom Sgt. Boyle spotted choking, after having dinner with his family in Richmond Hill, said during the presentation she was very grateful for all that he had done for her.

"The whole thing was kind of surreal," said Sgt. Boyle of the events of his rescue of Smiley.

"I remember my family and I were making our way through the parking lot, after having dinner in Richmond Hill, when suddenly we see this car driving at an angle through the parking lot with the driver's door open," said Sgt. Boyle.

"At first I wasn't sure what was happening with the driver of the car, but I knew something was wrong," Sgt. Boyle said. "So I went to take a closer look, and that is when I noticed Mrs. Smiley was trying to get out of the car

while it was still moving and grasping at her throat."

Sergeant Boyle said from that moment he knew what had to be done. After several exhausting minutes of performing the Heimlich maneuver, to open Mrs. Smiley's airway, the food was dislodged. An exhausted Mrs. Smiley proclaimed, "Well there it is," to the recently dislodged food.

"I definitely wasn't expecting anything, especially a Key to the City," said Sgt. Boyle, "I just did what anyone would have done."

However, Sgt. Boyle's command was not surprised to hear of the Soldier's heroics.

"If I had to pick anyone I know who would have been the one Soldier to save Mrs. Smiley, I would have picked Sgt. Boyle," said 1st Sgt. Jon Sylvester, Troop B, 3-7th Cavalry, 2nd HBCT.

First Sergeant Sylvester said Sgt. Boyle, while a recent addition to the unit, has rapidly made an impression onto the unit by receiving honors for his work with the unit's Nuclear, Biological and Chemical facilities.

"Sergeant Boyle, as soon as he arrived here, has been a tremendously positive, well-rounded role model for all of our Soldiers," said 1st Sgt. Sylvester.



Photo by Sgt. Dustin Gautney

Sergeant Walter Boyle, 3rd Squadron, 7th U.S. Cavalry, 2nd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, hands Barbara Smiley a bouquet of flowers, during a ceremony honoring Sgt. Boyle for saving Smiley's life, at the Richmond Hill City Council Office, April 5.

1/64 Soldiers meet, greet World War II Vets

Staff Sgt. Syreetta L. Watts 2HBCT Public Affairs

Soldiers of the Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 64th Armor Regiment, 2nd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, greeted World War II veterans April 8 at the Savannah Amtrak Station in Savannah, Ga. to support the Veterans Honor Flight to Washington, D.C.

The Honor Flight is a network that

helps transport veterans by bus, plane, or train to Washington, D.C. to visit their memorials.

The first Honor Flight took place in May 2005. Twelve veterans, flying out of Springfield, Ohio, were off to Washington, D.C. to visit their memorials.

Today WWII veterans continue to visit their memorials with the Honor Flight network, and look forward to attending this trip when given the opportunity. "I have never been to Washington, D.C. before," said James C. Lynes, a retired technical sergeant U.S. Air Force. "I am very tickled and honored to be selected to go on this trip, and I will be here from now on."

During the visit to Washington, D.C., the veterans are able to visit not only their memorials, but the memorials of their fellow comrades.

Lynes said he was very excited about seeing the memorials, the changing of

the guard, and the famous, Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

"I just want to make it there and back." he said.

Specialist Jad Breshears, 1/64 AR, 2HBCT, 3rd ID, who volunteered to greet the veterans prior to loading the train, said he was honored to be in the veterans' presence. He said the most interesting part of the event was meeting all the different veterans and hearing their stories, adding Spc. Breshears.

Spartan Infantrymen crawl, run, shoot their way to

Sgt. Dustin Gautney 2nd HBCT Public Affairs

The sound of enemy gunfire crackles through the air as a U.S. Soldier quickly dives to the ground and finds cover. The Soldier, fighting nerves and enemy contact, notices a wounded Soldier nearby. Pinned down, with a wounded comrade at arm's length, the Soldier knows what he has to do. The Soldier, tired to the point of exhaustion, musters the determination and energy to fight back his foe and aid his fallen fellow Soldier.

This scenario is all-too familiar for the Soldiers of the 2nd Heavy Brigade Combat Team. However, this was not on foreign soil. This scene and many others were part of the Spartan Brigade's Expert Infantry Badge Competition held at Fort Stewart, April 11-15.

Approximately 350 Fort Stewart Soldiers began the two-week training and competition to earn the prestigious Expert Infantry Badge. However, by the week's end, only 42 earned the right to wear the coveted silver musket.

"This was the first time I have seen the newest version of the EIB competition," said Sgt. Wesley

Broussard, Company A, 1st Battalion, 30th Infantry level of competence they have to have to earn it." Regiment, 2nd HBCT.

The whole thing was definitely combat orientated," said the combat veteran. "The last time I attempted the EIB competition was in 2002. However, this one is much more realistic. There were no retests if you failed a lane like the older version, and everything here is more reaction oriented."

To earn the EIB infantry Soldiers must complete numerous tasks which are considered key to basic infantryman skills, including: land navigation, movement under fire, call for fire, urban assault and fighting from a defensive position. Candidates for the competition were also required to qualify expert on their rifles as well as score 75-percent or higher on each of the Army Physical Fitness Test events.

While Sgt. Broussard felt the training and testing for the competition was excellent, he said the desire to earn the badge is what motivated himself and fellow Soldiers.

"Most infantrymen have the Combat Infantry Badge, which Infantrymen earn for combat action; not many have the EIB," said Sgt. Broussard. "When you see a Soldier wearing the badge, you instantly respect them and their skills because you know the

Specialist Jamie Stillings, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 64th Armor Regiment agrees with Sgt. Broussard. However, for Spc. Stillings, who earned the badge in 2006, it holds another special meaning for him.

"I was 32-years-old and the oldest during that competition to earn the badge," said Spc. Stillings, an instructor for the Spartan Brigades recent most recent EIB competition.

'There were guys much younger than I was failing out of the competition, so knowing the mental and physical determination needed to earn the badge at my age, when many younger Soldiers than me couldn't, it just holds a special meaning to me," Spc. Stillings said.

For the approximately 300 Soldiers who did not finish the competition, all was not a total loss, according to Cpl. Luis Castaneda, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd HBCT.

"I failed out pretty early. However, I still learned a lot from the training leading up to the competition," said Cpl. Castaneda. "That training still made me a better Soldier, and I have even more tools for when I earn the badge next year."

SK THE JUDGE: Military personnel and DUIS

Capt. Cameron R. Edlefsen Legal Assistance Attorney

• I was recently stopped by the police and given a ticket for DUI. Now I have been given an administrative General Officer Memorandum of Reprimand, but I haven't gone to court yet. How is this allowed?

 $oldsymbol{\mathcal{H}}_{ullet}^{ullet}$ An administrative reprimand does not constitute punishment. Instead, it serves as a tool to teach Soldiers proper standards of conduct and performance. Army Regulation 190-5, Chapter 2-7 requires a commander to take appropriate administrative action against intoxicated drivers. This action can include a Memorandum of Reprimand from any general officer when a Soldier either refuses to take a state-requested alcohol test or when the Soldier's blood-alcohol content is found to be above the legal limit of the state. This reprimand may be filed in the Soldier's local personnel file or Official Military Personnel File.

Does it make a difference if the DUI occurs on-post or off-post?

 A_{ullet}^{ullet} If the DUI occurs on post, your chain of command could also pursue punitive action against you such as an Article 15 or a court martial.

If the DUI occurs off post and results in a conviction in civil court, your chain of command could still pursue punitive action. However, the officer exercising General Court Martial jurisdiction must first authorize disposition of the case under the Uniform Code of Military Justice. Additionally, the chain of command could pursue an administrative reduction in rank if the DUI results in a conviction in civil court.

 If I receive a Memorandum of Reprimand, what should I do next?

A You should write and submit a rebuttal on your behalf. The time standard to submit your rebuttal is a reasonable amount of time, and at Fort Stewart, the reasonable amount of time is five calendar days from the day you receive a Memorandum of Reprimand. A rebuttal can request that the memorandum be removed or that the memorandum be filed in your local file instead of your Official Military Personnel File. The contents of your rebuttal will depend on the individual facts of your case. Call the Legal Assistance Office immediately upon receiving your memorandum to talk to an attorney for assistance in preparing your

I was given a DUI and had my driver's license suspended even though I refused to take a breathalyzer or blood test? Is this legal?

A Yes. The state of Georgia has an implied consent law. Under this law (O.C.G.A. §40-5-67.1), anyone who drives or operates a motor vehicle on the roads or highways of Georgia is considered to have given consent to a chemical test of their blood, breath, urine or other bodily substance for the purpose of determining the presence of alcohol or drugs. If a person refuses to submit to these tests, a person's privilege to drive in the state of Georgia will be suspended for a minimum of one year based on the violation of this law.

In addition to losing your driving privileges in the state of Georgia, Army Regulation 190-5, Chapter 2-4(b) (3)(a) states that a person's on post driving privileges will be revoked for a minimum of one year when the installation commander determines that a person has refused to submit to a test that measures blood alcohol content when the person is lawfully apprehended for suspected driving under the influence.

What other consequences may I face if I am in the military and am charged with DUI?

 $m{A}_{m{\cdot}}^{m{\cdot}}$ In addition to receiving a GOMOR and possibly losing your driving privileges, Soldiers who are convicted of, or receive an administrative action for any offense involving driving under the influence will be referred to the installation alcohol and drug abuse



Education Matters

Green-to-Gold briefings held monthly

The Green-to-Gold scholarship sessions are held at the installation education centers every month at 2 p.m. Upcoming briefings are scheduled for May 4 at Fort Stewart and May 18 at Hunter. ROTC representatives from Georgia Southern will conduct the Stewart briefing. ROTC representative from Armstrong Atlantic State University will conduct the Hunter briefing. For more information, visit www.goarmy.com/rotc.

Register now for college graduation

The Ft. Stewart-Hunter AAF "All College Commencement" is slated at the Main Post Chapel, Fort Stewart, 7 p.m., June 24. The ceremony is open to all Military, Family Members, retirees, and Civilian/ contract employees who will be within nine semester hours of completing their degree requirements or have earned a college degree, post-secondary certificate or diploma anytime after August 2009.

Students attending "On-Post" schools should contact their college right away. For those enrolled in off-post schools, (even for graduates not planning on attending the ceremony) please complete the electronic registration form at www.stewart.army.mil/services/education/gradForm/gradform.asp. Forms are also available at the education centers. Early registration is required not only to contact the participants, but to recognize all our graduates in the graduation brochure. For more information, contact Sheraill Fresher, 912-767-8331 or e-mail Sheraill.d.fresher@conus.army.mil.

The deadline to order undergraduate cap and gowns is May 6th. They are available to rent from Columbia College for \$32. For more information, call 912-877-

NAIMES opts Soldiers to show skills

The National Association of Institutions for Military Education Services and MBS Direct LLC announce the 2010 NAIMES Student Spotlight Award program. This program offers an opportunity for interested activeduty military students to showcase their scholarly competency and skills learned while participating in the Voluntary Education program.

Eligible participants are active-duty personnel from all service branches, using tuition assistance funding. Students are encouraged to submit an application and project (essay, prose, art, video, etc) to compete for one of three \$1,200 cash awards. Applications must be submitted through the NAIMES Web site: www.naimes. org and must be posted online by Sept. 2. Questions may be addressed to Cheri Arfsten, Chair, Student Spotlight Award Committee at *cheri.arfsten@ppcc*.

ThanksUSA Scholarship opens

The ThanksUSA Scholarship Program will award numerous scholarships for up-to \$3000 each. New this year, Educational Support Scholarships, which provide for reduced tuition of up to 51 percent, are also available to eligible military spouses. All dependent children, age 24 and under and all spouses of active-duty U.S. military service personnel are eligible to apply. Applicants must plan to enroll full-time in an accredited two-year or four-year college, university, vocational school or technical school. Spouses may now use the award for non-degree licensure/certification programs. Scholarship recipients are selected on the basis of financial need, academic record, leadership and participation in school and community activities, a statement of goals, and unusual personal or family circumstances. Preference will be given to children or spouses of service personnel killed or injured during

The application is available on-line and should be submitted or mailed by May 15. For all details go to www.thanksusa.org/main/scholarships.html. For more information call 877-849-8727 or e-mail thanksusa@scholarshipamerica.org.

Medical scholarships offered

Operation Homefront and the Saban Family Foundation are awarding 22 scholarships totaling up to \$237,500. They are offered to wives of uniformed service members to attend various vocational training programs in the medical field. The awards will be based on the applicant's response to the essay question and her commitment to volunteerism.

Applications must be postmarked no later than May 1. Detailed information on eligibility and application requirements can be found at www.operationhomefront.net/highlights.aspx?id=9431.

Education appointments available

Customers unable to visit the Army Education Center during the duty hours of 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. will be afforded the opportunity, to schedule a counseling appointment up until 5:45 p.m. The request can be made by e-mailing the Education Center at stewcounselor@conus.mil.

MyCAA available for spouses

The Department of Defense has resumed the Military Spouse Career Advancement Accounts, MyCAA, program for qualifying spouses only. The program now assists spouses of active-duty service members in the pay grades of private to sergeant, warrant officers 1 and 2, first lieutenant, and second lieutenant to achieve portable careers. The approved education programs are only associate's degrees, licensure, and certifications. Funding assistance will be up to \$4,000 with an annual cap of \$2,000 per fiscal year. To open an account and to see the full details of the new program, go to

the secure Web site, https://aiportal.acc.af.mil/mycaa.

Please allow for 14 days for approval of all financial assistance documents. If information is needed on other sources of financial assistance please contact a Military OneSource consultant at 800-342-9647.

New withdrawal procedures announced

The process for requesting a Withdrawal for Military Reasons is announced.

Request in GoArmyEd for Tuition Assistance funded classes has changed. Soldiers are now required to upload into their GoArmyEd the "Request for TA recoupment waiver form," signed by their battalion commander.

You should first speak to your teacher. If after you have verified with the instructor that you cannot complete the class, even with an extension, and you feel you must withdraw, inform the teacher and the school. Then go into Go Army Ed under the "Enroll or Drop/ Withdraw form a Course" tab under my Virtual Education Center while the course is still in session and follow the procedures.

If you have further questions about the withdrawal process, please contact the GoArmyEd Helpdesk at 800-817-9990. Deployed Soldiers should call 800-861-7770 or create a Helpdesk case online at www. GoArmyEd.com.

Free online tutoring available

The Department of Defense now provides eligible U.S. military Families the ability to get help from a professional tutor anytime you need it - FREE. You and your children can work with a professional tutor online 24/7 to get help with homework, studying, test prep, resume writing and more. School subjects supported are all grade levels of math, science, English, and social studies. Also available are study sources for Standardized Tests to include the ASVAB, GED, college entrance exams and state standardized exams. In addition, there are helpful links for career transitions, writing resumes, studying for exams and helping children with homework. Best of all, it is very easy to access and get started. Go to www.tutor.com/ and click on the purple "Military" symbol. For more information, call 800-411-1970 or 212-528-3101.

Take Pearson VUE exams locally

The Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith Army Education Center is a Pearson VUE Authorized Testing Center. Community members can take advantage of on-site IT certification testing and hundreds of other professional certification and licensure exams right on Fort Stewart. Just go to www.pearsonvue.com to register. Upon approval to take the exam, you will receive a candidate identification number. Then schedule the exam date by contacting Blondell Francis, room 165 or call 912-767-9569.

CLEP now at Stewart, Hunter

The College Level Examination Program and DANTES Subject Standardized Tests are now available at both education center sites. The exams are free for military personnel; however there is now a charge to re-test on a previously administered exam. CLEP tests are \$92 and DSSTs are \$100. The Hunter Test Center requires pre-registration: www.ccis.edu/nationwide/main. asp?Hunter. Contact the Columbia College test administrator by calling 912-352-8635 at Hunter or 912-767-7588 at Fort Stewart.

Online academic skills course offered

The Peterson's Online Academic Skills Course is now available to all the services, DoD Civilians, and Family Members. The OASC is designed for individuals who want to build their math and verbal skills to excel in their jobs, pass their exams, advance their careers, or continue their education. The course will diagnose the individual's current level of reading comprehension, vocabulary, and math abilities and teach the concepts and skills needed to increase proficiency in each of these academic areas. This course is available free of charge and can be accessed on any computer at any time. To register, click on www.petersons.com/dantes. The same site also provides free study resources for GED, SAT, CLEP, ASVAB, etc.

Money available for education

The Army continues to fund the cost of college Tuition Assistance for active-duty Soldiers and Army Reservists through the GoArmyEd Web site. Choose from online and classroom courses from thousand of colleges. The Army still provides each Soldier \$250 per semester hour up to \$4500 per fiscal year. New students should login to www.GoArmyEd.com for details and to start your GoArmyEd account. Then meet with an Army education counselor to discuss college programs and activate your account. E-mail counselor support is also available, by contacting stewcounselor@conus.

Source available for Post-9/11 GI Bill

The Post-9/11 GI Bill, Chapter 33, is a non-contributory benefit (no up-front payment required by Soldiers) for those who served on active duty on or after Sept. 11, 2001. The Veterans Administration Web site at www.gibill.va.gov provides in-depth eligibility information for all VA chapters and a link to the on-line application. It also includes all information and steps concerning the transferability to Family Members. Also check out the new Web site at www.ebenefits. va.gov where you can view the status of your VA benefits and much more. If you have questions after exploring the Web site, call 888-442-4551.

Columbia offers spouse scholarship

Spouses of military personnel can take their first classroom course free while they complete their financial aid paperwork and enrollment procedures with Columbia College. The active-duty member does not have to be enrolled with Columbia College. In addition, Columbia offers spouses a 20 percent tuition discount for "in-seat" (classroom) courses. Call the Fort Stewart site at 912-877-3406 or dial 912-352-8635 at Hunter.

Check out the eBenefits Portal

The Veterans Administration has a new Web site called eBenefits where a Soldier can view the status of all his/her VA Benefits (pension claims, GI Bill, home loan certification, etc). This portal is a one-stop shop for benefits-related online tools and information for Wounded Warriors, veterans, service members, Family of service members, and those who care for them. It's a personalized workspace giving quick access to online tools integrated into eBenefits - tools that let you apply for benefits, download your DD 214, see your benefits status online, learn about state benefits and much more. You must be enrolled in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System to create an account. Active duty can use their CAC card to gain access. Others must go to a VA location to get a log-on ID. For

Veterans Affairs Services alert

The National Guard Bureau has sent out an advisory on an organization called Veterans Affairs Services which is providing VA benefit and general information and gathering personal information on veterans. The VAS is not affiliated with the Department of Veterans Affairs in any way. Web sites with the name "VA services" immediately after the "www" ARE NOT part of the Department of Veterans Affairs; the real VA Web site ends in .gov. The VA does not make random phone calls nor does it do business through e-mail. If you receive an unexpected call from someone saying they are with the VA or some similar agency, hang up the

Education Forum enlightens parents



Photo by Sqt. Robert Schaffner, 3rd ID Public Affairs

Soldiers, Family Members and educators gathered at Club Stewart's main ballroom at Fort Stewart, April 12 for the Spring Education Forum. The Forum is open to Soldiers and spouses and focuses on students enrolled in public and DODEA schools. Participants gathered for the two-day forum to discuss issues and possible solutions in proactive, upbeat discussion groups. The forum on Hunter Army Airfield will be from 8:30 a.m.-noon April 26 in the Hunter Club. Those who cannot be at the forum can make comments and suggestions through the School Liaison Offices Web site link on the lower left-hand side of the Team Stewart home page. Parents can also call the School Liaison Offices at 912-767-6533 (Stewart) or 912-315-6586 (Hunter).

Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield Briefs

Close of tax season approaches

The Marne Tax Centers at Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield will remain open through April 25. The center is open to active-duty Soldiers, Family Members, and retirees. The tax centers provide free tax preparation services for both federal and state returns.

Taxpayers should bring ALL required documentation to the tax center, such as W2s, 1099s, 1098s, etc. Also bring military ID, a copy of their social security card or a memo from the Social Security Administration for the taxpayer, their spouse, and any dependents. Space is limited so returns can be prepared while you wait or as a drop-off; in each case, you will need to bring all documents and be in-processed by our staff.

Drop-off returns may take 3-4 business days to process and you need to return to the tax center to sign your return before it can be filed.

Hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. Staffing may be limited during the lunch period from 11:45 to 12:30. There are two locations:

Fort Stewart: Bldg. 709 (next to Popeyes) and Hunter Army Airfield, Bldg. 1211 (Legal Assistance Bldg.). For more information, stop by the tax center or call 912-767-1040 (Stewart) or 912-315-3675 (HAAF).

Get ready for insurance open season

From now through June 24, the civilian workforce will have Open Season for Federal Long Term Care Insurance. In October 2009 the Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program introduced a new plan, FLTCIP 2.0, with enhanced features for current FLTCIP enrollees. Now that all current enrollees are "settled," it's time to move forward with the second phase of the FLTCIP 2.0 rollout.

During the open season, actively at work employees and their spouses (including same sex domestic partners of the Civilian workforce members) who are not currently enrolled, will be able to apply to the FLTCIP with abbreviated underwriting. Non-enrolled annuitants and other qualified relatives can apply for coverage with a full underwriting application during this period, as well as anytime during the year.

For frequently asked questions on the Open Season, please visit www.ltcfeds.com/help/faq/faq.html. This site will be updated on a regular basis.

Contribute to Japan relief funds

The Office of Personnel Management Office of Combined Federal Campaign is authorizing a special opportunity to help those in need in Japan. Federal employees at the workplace can help to facilitate relief and reconstruction assistance in Japan through this special solicitation. A one-time cash or check donation outside the normal Combined Federal Campaign procedures will be allowed. If anyone would like to contribute, The United States Agency for International Development has provided a list of relief organizations and related information on its web site at www.usaid. **gov**. All special solicitation activities must conclude by July 31, 2011.

3rd ID Reunion scheduled

The Society of the 3rd Infantry Division and attached units in wars and in peacetime will hold their 92nd annual reunion Sept. 8-11.

The reunion will be held at the Astor Crowne Plaza Hotel, French Quarter, 739 Canal Street at Bourbon, New Orleans, La., 70130. The toll free number is 888-696-4806. Room rates are \$99 per night plus tax.

The Society of the Third Infantry Division is seeking those who served in the 3rd and attached units in wars, peacetime, or special interest to join the Society. Contact Henry Burke 803-782-7517 or e-mail: pennieburke@sc.rr.com.

For additional reunion information, contact Trish Blanton or e-mail *Info@TheReunionBrat.com*.

Lost an item? Found an item?

Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield have a lost and found program. If you want to report or check on a lost item, visit building 280, 354 East Bultman Avenue on Fort Stewart and check with Detective Hooks, 912-767-9596/9026.

The Hunter Army Airfield point of contact is Detective Battista, at building 1240, 197 South Lightning Road at 912-315-5374/2940.

Get your message out quickly

Use the Marne Message system to get information out to the Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield community of employees. From your computer, send your message to **stewmsgrequest@conus.army.mil**. Your information should populate the system within hours, if not sooner. Attachments cannot be included in MARNE Messages. Only command-directed messages are included in MARNE messages.

Property shipment briefings planned

In order to accommodate the current surge requirements for personal property, the Fort Stewart Personal Property Office will conduct Household Good Shipping Entitlement Briefings every Thursday starting at 1:30 p.m. in building 275. Immediately upon receiving orders, personnel need to call 912-767-8154/7971 to make an appointment for this briefing.

STEWART:

Celebrate Lent Wednesday

Weekly Lenten services will be held every Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. at Heritage Chapel. The services will continue through Holy Week concluding with a Tenebrae service (service of shadows) on Good Friday. Soup and sandwiches provided after the Wednesday services. For more information contact Chap. (Maj.) George Wallace at 912-767-7492.

Immigration Fair planned

The Fort Stewart Legal Assistance Office is hosting the American Immigration Lawyers Association of Atlanta at building 709 (1791 Gulick Ave near Popeye's), 1-4 p.m., May 12 and 9 a.m.-4 p.m., May 13.

These are immigration specialist who will assist Soldiers and Family Members with immigration questions, give legal advice, and if necessary provide free legal representation.

This event is only open to active-duty status Soldiers and their Family Members. Appointments can be made in advance by coming to the Fort Stewart Legal Assistance Office, building 709; or Soldiers and Family Members are free to walk-in on the day of the event.

Winn DFAC opens later for public

The Winn Army Community Dining Facility is open to only Winn staff (with Winn ID badge) and Families of current inpatients from 11 a.m.-noon, Monday through Friday.

All non-badge holders are welcome to enjoy our

COMET offers Soldier training

Need Soldier Training? The Fort Stewart Command

Maintenance Evaluation and training Team subject matter experts are ready to assist units seeking to evaluate and train Soldiers within supply and ground maintenance arenas. We offer formal training classes on maintenance, records management, supply/property accountability, drivers/licensing program, publications and much more.

The COMET team is always willing to assist units in evaluating their maintenance and supply program through formal and informal evaluations ensuring a unit is within the Fort Stewart and Army Standard.

Do you have questions on the Command and Supply

Discipline Program? Call the supply team and receive up-to-date and accurate tips on making your unit's program work. Do you need a refresher course on running readiness reports at your maintenance facility? Request a staff assisted visit and receive one-onone training with a technical expert.

We are located in building 623, suite 144 just off of William H. Wilson Avenue. Contact the COMET Program Manager at 912-767-1018 for questions regarding the COMET program or to request assistance, and remember: "The answer is yes! Now, how can we help you?"

Access Garrison Brown Bags blog

The Garrison Brown Bag program is designed to allow Garrison senior leadership to receive direct feedback from the workforce in an informal luncheon environment. The garrison commander and deputy garrison commander conduct bi-monthly brown bag luncheons designed to answer questions and concerns on the spot, and take notes on concerns that require additional follow-up information.

These concerns are researched and answered by the appropriate directorate and posted on a blog. Access to this blog is on the Fort Stewart homepage, www. stewart.army.mil. Once on the site, click the button labeled "Fort Stewart brown bag Answers" to access the blog. In addition to current Brown Bag topics, the archived brown bag answers can also be accessed from a link on the blog site.

Spring Education Forum planned

The Hunter Army Airfield School Liaison Office will hold its annual Spring Education Forum, 8:30 a.m., April 26, at the Hunter Club. The forum will provide information on attendance/test requirements as well as provisions and waivers given to military connected students. Representatives from public and private schools will be present. They will be able to answer questions and inform parents and students on what to expect in the upcoming school transition, as Hunter will house its first public elementary school to open August 2011.

The forum will conclude with a tour of the new elementary school. Participants will have to RSVP for the event. For more information, call School Liaison Services, 912-315-6586.

Air Force golf tournament planned

The Hunter Golf Club will host the 117th Air Control Squadron Golf Tournament, May 13, with a 12:30 p.m. shotgun start. Cost is \$45 per person; \$180 per team. Proceeds will benefit the Ronald McDonald House.

If you would like to play in the tournament, make a prize donation or sponsor a hole for \$100, please contact 1st Lt. Ryan Peterson at 803-493-0902 or Robert. peterson.2@ang.af.mil.

Alcohol Awareness Month activities

Hunter Army Airfield Georgia State Patrol April 25, 9-10 a.m.; 1-2 p.m. at Hunter

This class will be presented by Trooper Andy Singuefield from Georgia State Patrol. This class will educate attendees about underage drinking and driving while under the influence.

Save a Life Tour

Theater

April 25 and 26 at Fort Stewart Caro Gym April 27 at Hunter Army Airfield Tominac Fitness Center

The National Save A Life Tour takes a new approach to drinking and driving awareness. Gone are the days when a tall cop with a shiny badge tries to scare people into listening.

The Save a Life Tour brings a shocking approach to alcohol awareness with tragic video, personal stories of the loss of loved ones by peers, and a sobering drinking and driving simulation experience. This tour has earned itself national acclaim from colleges, universities, high schools and military events nation-





If you need help, please call Counseling ASAP: 912-767-5265



Prevention ASAP: 912-767-5974



May 12 • 1 - 4 p.m. | May 13 • 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Fort Stewart Legal Assistance Office, building 709 (Past Popeye's on Gulick Ave)

ALL SOLDIERS AND DA CIVILIANS ASSIGNED TO OR WORKING FOR USAG Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield WILL ATTEND ONE OF THE SIX EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS BRIEFINGS. Emergency Preparedness Day

8-9 a.m.; 10-11 a.m.; 1-2 p.m. Fort Stewart Main Post Chapel building 500

-May 17—

9-10 a.m.; 1-2 p.m.; 3-4 p.m. Hunter Army Airfield, Post Theater building 1282

> Project officer is Mr. Tony Fleeger, DPTMS, P&O DIV, 912-767-2583

or e-mail *William.Fleeger@us.army.mil*.

LEGAL NOTICE

nyone having claims against, or who is Aindebted to the estate of Capt. Wesley Hinkley, 24th Finance Co., Ft. Stewart, Ga., 31314, please contact 1st Lt. Walter Camacho at 912-767-

Around the Department of Defense



DOD announces stationing of two combat aviation brigades

DOD Press Release

The Department of Defense announced March 30 the stationing of two Army combat aviation brigades.

The 16th Combat Aviation Brigade will be split-based and established at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash., and Fort Wainwright, Alaska, using existing aviation units not currently assigned to a combat aviation brigade. A new brigade will be activated at Fort Carson, Colo.

The 16th CAB stationing action realigns existing assets resulting in an increase of approximately 1,400

new Soldiers and 44 helicopters at JBLM. This action for the split-based CAB at JBLM will begin in fiscal 2012 and is expected to be completed by fiscal 2014.

The Army recognizes Alaska as a strategic location and will continue to maintain a significant aviation presence there. This stationing increases the invaluable medical evacuation strength in Alaska by three additional aircraft in fiscal 2013. It also validates the Army's commitment and support to the aviation infrastructure through military construction programmed for replacement and upgrade of the aviation facilities.

The new combat aviation brigade activation at Fort Carson, Colo., will result in a total growth in Army forces and equipment by approximately 2,700 Soldiers and 113 helicopters. Fort Carson establishes the new brigade beginning fiscal 2013 and is expected to be completed by fiscal 2014.

The activation of these brigades will increase the capabilities of the active component of the U.S. Army and increase dwell time for aviation units between deployments in support of overseas contingency operations. These combined force structure actions represent integrated changes that support the Army's transformation requirements.

Ground Soldiers get familiar with aircraft



Photo by Sgt. Monica K. Smith, 3rd CAB Public Affairs

Specialist Jarrod Wright (left), a Black Hawk crew chief with Company C, 4th Battalion, 3rd Aviation Regiment, 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade, explains the capabilities of a Black Hawk to Pvt. Steve Haliburton with the 3rd Squadron, 7th Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, during a tour, April 8, at Hunter Army Airfield. "About 40 percent of our guys are new and we wanted to conduct some aircraft familiarization training along with air ground integration," said 1st Lt. Peter Blades, 3/7 Cav., 2HBCT. "We are scouts so it's important for us to know the capabilities they bring to the fight so when we need them we call the right aircraft."

Integrated intelligence course strengthens ISF



Photo by Staff Sgt. Tanya Thomas, 4th AAB, 3rd Inf. Div., USD-C

CAMP ALI, Iraq – Sergeant First Class Vallery Thierry, intelligence non-commissioned officer in charge with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment, 4th Advise and Assist Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division, teaches an Iraqi Police officer how to brief significant activity on a map during a combined forces' intelligence class at Camp Ali, Iraq, April 14. Intelligence officers with Iraqi Army and Iraqi Police units in the Ramadi area attended the three-day course which taught current operations, link analysis, development of interest, map reading and briefing techniques.



Gen Casey retires from Army service

Jim Garamone

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON - Army Chief of Staff Gen. George W. Casey Jr. expressed great pride in his Soldiers and their Families as he ended more than four decades of military service.

"I couldn't be prouder of your courage, your resilience and your commitment to the values and ideals that make this country and this Army great," Gen. Casey, the 36th Army Chief of Staff, wrote in a farewell letter to the troops. Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates called Casey "a valued leader" during the recent general's Pentagon retirement ceremony.

"The Army Gen. George Casey leaves behind, a force that has borne the brunt of our nation's wars, is more resilient, better trained, more balanced and vastly more lethal because of his leadership," Gates said. "He served as a stalwart advocate and guide for thousands of brave young men and women, and their loved ones."

Before becoming chief of staff in 2007, Gen. Casey served as commander of Multinational Forces Iraq. The general led the force through a difficult time including Iraq's transition to a sovereign government, three elections, and the growth - in size and capability - of the Iraqi army and police, Gates said.

General Casey's "personal demeanor, steady confidence and care for the well being of his troops served as an important example for our young men and women on the front lines," the secretary said.

Upon becoming the Army's chief of staff, Gen. Casey found that the service was out of balance. The Army at that time was "so weighed down by current demands that we couldn't do the things we needed to do to sustain the all-volunteer force and simultaneously prepare ourselves for the full range of missions," Gen. Casey wrote.

General Casey and his wife, Sheila, journeyed to

installations and units around the world to speak to Army Families and see firsthand how they were handling the strain of simultaneously fighting two wars, Gates said.

Under Gen. Casey's tenure as chief of staff, the Army expanded programs to help America's wounded sons and daughters receive needed treatment and recover from war's physical and emotional trauma.

"General [George Casey] greatly increased the number of behavioral health providers and improved mental health screening for returning Soldiers in order to identify those at risk," Gates said. "He pushed the Army to reduce the stigma associated with combat stress and traumatic brain injuries and to treat them as the injuries they truly are.

"General Casey led the battle to provide long-term support to survivors of the Fallen, creating the Army Survivor Outreach Services," he added.

General Casey also implemented alcohol treatment and suicide prevention programs at Army installations around the country to help returning Soldiers struggling to adjust to life at home.

When the president authorized an increase in the size of the Army, Gen. Casey pushed to exceed the service's recruiting goals.

Because of Gen. Casey's efforts "the Army was able to end the practice of stop-loss and increase Soldiers' home station dwell time - developments that have greatly increased force readiness," Gates said.

"Nearly 70 percent of the Army is now on a path to meet the goal of two years at home for every year deployed," the secretary added. "As the drawdown in Iraq continues, and the transition in Afghanistan begins, I hope the Army will be able to achieve its longer-term goal of three years home for every year deployed."

During the ceremony, Gates presented Gen. Casey with the Distinguished Service Medal.

1HBCT Soldiers prepare for training



Photo by Pfc. Emily Knitter, 1HBCT, 3ID

Soldiers from Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, spend the day ensuring all pieces of the Deployable Rapid Assembly Shelters (DRASH), were located and in working order in preparation for upcoming training missions with help from Joe Salvadore, the DRASH senior technician for the Southeast area, April 18. "Since all the [tracking and monitoring] systems are housed within the DRASH, it is important to ensure the tents are functional," explained Sgt. First Class George Morris, a brigade fire support operations sergeant. If we can't get the basic foundation of the tactical operations center up, the ability to track the brigade's operations as a whole is greatly degraded."

VEHICLE—

"We make sure that the vehicle is properly dispatched, the operator is properly licensed to operate the piece of equipment, [the Soldier] has the necessary basic issued items in case of emergency, such as a fire extinguisher and warning triangles. We look at the maintenance inspection sheet to make sure the vehicle has been properly checked Preventive Maintenance Checks and Services in accordance with the proper technical manual."

The Command Maintenance Evaluation and Training team devised an inspector's checklist that should be familiar to all Soldiers.

"We have created a checklist that we extracted information from Fort Stewart 750-1 to make sure that the vehicle is safe for driving and has no deadline deficiencies on it," said COMET Team Chief Tony Walker.

Once the inspection is complete, the checklist is not put in a drawer and forgotten.

"Once we inspect a vehicle, we take the information extracted and once the information is compiled it is turned in and submitted to G4," said Walker. "It will have all the trends that we found during that inspection period. The driver gets a copy along with the track commander, and they turn that back into their chain of command."

Senior non-commissioned officers from the division G4 (logistics) will conduct the inspections.

"We have to do some things like the random safety checks as a representative of the division," said Sgt. Maj. Bryan S. Kernen, one of the two G4 maintenance sergeant majors assigned to 3rd ID. "Sometimes it takes a big foot to come down to make sure that policies are adhered to, and that's me."

Soldiers like Sgt. Leonard Tukes, an assistant battalion master driver assigned to Division Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion, the inspections are worthwhile and necessary.

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"I feel the inspections are necessary to make sure everybody is doing the correct thing and just a good thing all around," Sgt. Tukes said. "When you see the sergeant major, you know he means business and that's even more of a reason to have all of your stuff straight and squared away."

For Soldiers who do the right thing, plans for recognition are in the works.

The solution to safety is simple, said Chief Noble.

"The key is, units need to follow proper procedures when it comes down to Army regulations and also following Fort Stewart and 3rd Infantry Division procedures when it comes down to dispatching equipment," said Chief Warrant Officer Noble.

"The G4 will be working up a policy that will highly recognize those Soldiers and will notify their command," said Walker. For more information on the COMET team and what they do, be sure to check this week's Marne TV.

Waycross leadership learn Soldier skills at Stewart

Pat Young

Fort Stewart Public Affairs

More than 20 community representatives from Leadership Waycross visited Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield during a tour of the installation hosted by 5th Squadron, 7th U.S. Cavalry Regiment.

Leadership Waycross is part of the state-wide initiative, Leadership Georgia, a tiered education platform to educate and advocate the positive growth of community leaders. The visit was designed to familiarize participants with the installation, Soldiers, and the training mission.

Lieutenant Andrew Kirkland, C Troop, 5/7 Cav, provided a tour of the installation to include stops at Warriors Walk, the Enhanced Skills Trainer, and humvee vehicle roll-over simulator, the Fort Stewart Museum, the Main Post Chapel, and afforded the guests the opportunity to dine with Soldiers at the Spartan Dining Facility.

Walking up to the Engagement Skills Trainer, the guests were able to see Soldiers with 5th Battalion, 7th infantry Regiment training on the humvee rollover simulator. The simulator was designed to help familiarize Soldiers with the experience of rolling over in a vehicle, and practice the skills needed to help survive the accident, and post-

accident recovery process.

Instructors explained that even after the accident, unbuckling your seatbelt could cause additional damage if you are upside down, and not prepared for the fall that may follow.

The guests were afforded the opportunity to try on the personal protection equipment and sit in the simulators to get a feel for the training.

"The training is intense," said Leadership Waycross employee Carolyn Walker as she spoke to her compatriot Joy Newsome. "This is the kind of training even civilians can benefit from. I never realized the extent of the training Soldiers do."

Waycross coordinators Retired Sgt. Maj. Raphael D. Maddox and Retired Air Force Lt. Col. Frank Baugh, noted training has changed since their time in the service, expanding to incorporate the latest technology innovations.

Emphasizing that point, Retired Staff Sgt. Jason Letterman (Retired), a double amputee who lost his legs from an Improvised Explosive Device in Farasiyah, Iraq in May 2008 serving with the 4th IBCT, Third Infantry Division, demonstrated the EST and walked the guest through the M16 weapon simulator.

Dan Quinlan, Supervisor for the Virtual Section of Training Support Center, said the EST simulators were a



Photo by Pat Young

Staff Sergeant Jason Letterman (Retired), a double amputee, discusses Army equipment with Wayne county leadership, April 13 at Fort Stewart.

very cost efficient method of training and afforded a more flexible resource for unit commanders down to the squad level.

Quinlan noted the trainers could be tailored for a great variety of training resources prior to, and after gunnery, and allows Soldiers to main small and crew served weapons skills. EST trainers have expanded to include sniper avoidance training scenarios, and also have the capability of performing wheeled vehicle gunnery – where uparmored humvee can pull into the EST bays and use the simulators.

Leaders desiring to coordinate the EST trainer should contact their office at 767-7789.



Community members give donation to 3rd ID's Warriors Walk

Photo by Pat Young, Fort Stewart Public Affairs

Wreaths for Warriors Walk President Tony Justi and vice-president Bruce Muncher accept a donation from The Landing's Landlover City Explorers event coordinator Janet Routhier, April 12 at Warriors Walk on Fort Stewart. The City Explorers group contributed more than \$500 to support Wreaths for Warriors Walk's effort, to provide a wreath for each of the trees dedicated to Fallen Soldiers remembered there. The Wreaths for Warriors Walk event is the second Saturday in December and is open to the public.

Soldiers get new Arby's restaurant on Fort Stewart

Spc. Michael Adams 3rd ID Public Affairs

On April 15, at Fort Stewart, Soldiers and their Families got a new way to appreciate what the Army and Air force Exchange Service has to offer those who serve.

AAFES opened a new Arby's restaurant on Fort Stewart, only the second opened on an Army post.

Colonel Kevin Milton, garrison commander for Fort Stewart and Command Sgt. Maj. James Ervin, garrison command sergeant major for Stewart, were in attendance and were the first two customers at the new Arby's.

"It's another benefit for the Soldiers and Family Members of this installation," said Command Sgt. Maj. Ervin. He added that Arby's came because garrison conducted an internal analysis and determined that Arby's was one of the most popular restaurants for Soldiers and their Families and was the best choice to bring to Stewart.

Thea Sarver is the general manager for the Fort Stewart Consolidated Exchange.

She oversaw Arby's coming to the installation.

"This offers another name-brand food for our military community," she said. "It also allows them another opportunity to come on post and eat at our food court and add to what we offer."

The new Arby's is located at the Food Court inside the Post Exchange.



Photo by Spc. Michael Adams

Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. James Ervin; AAFES general manager, Thea Sarver; Arby's operating officer Diana Tao; Arby's chief development officer, John Todd and Garrison Commander Col. Kevin Milton cut the ribbon to officially open Arby's on Fort Stewart, April 15.

Hunter's Garrison team sign anti-child abuse, anti sexual-assault proclamations

Photo by Nancy Gould, Hunter Public Affairs

Hunter Army Airfield ACS staff gathered to witness Lt. Col. Jose Aguilar, garrison commander, Hunter Army Airfield, and Sgt. 1st Class Theresa Abraham, non-commissioned officer in charge of Hunter Garrison, sign the anti-child abuse and anti-sexual assault proclamations in a ceremony, April 14, at Hunter Army Airfield, demonstrating their support in the prevention of child abuse and sexual assault.

ACS representatives at the ceremony included (I-r): Nayereh Sabripour, Hunter New Parent Support Program, Home Visitor; Bernadette Kuchinsky, Hunter New Parent Support Program, Home Visitor; Renee McClinton, Hunter Army Volunteer Coordinator: Jacqueline Chatman, Hunter Mobilization and Deployment Specialist; Sgt. 1st Class Ben Carter, Hunter Unit Victim Advocate, 260th Quartermaster Bn.; Lt. Col. Jose Aguilar, garrison commander, Hunter Army Airfield; Sgt. 1st Class Theresa Abraham, non-commissioned officer in charge of Hunter Army Airfield Garrison; Deborah Riley, Hunter Family Advocacy Program Specialist; Nedra Barnes-Larrieux, Fort Stewart-Hunter Sexual Assault Response Coordinator; Sabrina Hayes, Hunter Installation Victim Advocate; Michelle Roper, Hunter Financial Readiness Program Specialist.

